

1 What is claimed:

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3 1. A method of manufacturing a burial casket with a through-fitting on a curved  
4 corner of the casket, the method comprising:

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6 - providing a through-fitting having

7 - a body portion with a through hole along an axis and with a concave,  
8 shape-conforming shoulder portion,

9 - a neck portion extending axially outwardly from said shoulder portion,  
10 said neck portion having an outside diameter less than an outside diameter  
11 of said body portion, and

12 - a concave, shape-conforming end face disposed on an end of said neck  
13 portion;

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15 - providing a hole in the curved corner of the casket, said hole having a rim with a  
16 convex outer surface and a concave inner surface, said hole being sized and shaped to  
17 permit the passage of said neck portion therethrough, and said rim being disposed to  
18 engage said shoulder portion;

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20 - inserting said neck portion of said through-fitting through said hole from an  
21 exterior of the casket; and

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23 - crimping said neck portion against said rim on said concave inner surface to  
24 affix said through-fitting to said burial casket.

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26 2. A method of manufacturing a burial casket with a through-fitting on a curved  
27 corner of the casket, as in claim 1, wherein said crimping step further comprises directing  
28 a shape-conforming crimping tool against said end face of said neck portion.

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- 1     3.     A method of manufacturing a burial casket with a through-fitting on a curved  
2     corner of the casket, as in claim 2, wherein:
- 3             - said crimping tool comprises an end portion having a radius less than a  
4     diameter of said through hole, and having a shape-conforming, flange-forming portion  
5     disposed around a periphery of said crimping tool; and
- 6             - said crimping step comprises forming a shape-conforming flange from said neck  
7     portion, said flange being in contact with said rim on said concave inner surface.  
8
- 9     4.     A method of manufacturing a burial casket with a through-fitting on a curved  
10    corner of the casket, as in claim 3, wherein:
- 11            - said flange-forming portion has a substantially U-shaped cross-section with an  
12    outer rim spaced radially outwardly from said outside diameter of said neck portion, prior  
13    to crimping.  
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- 15    5.     A method of manufacturing a burial casket with a through-fitting on a curved  
16    corner of the casket, as in claim 3, wherein:
- 17            - said shape-conforming flange is in contact with said rim on said concave inner  
18    surface substantially around an entire periphery of said rim.  
19
- 20    6.     A method of manufacturing a burial casket with a through-fitting on a curved  
21    corner of the casket, as in claim 5, wherein said body portion and said neck portion of  
22    said through-fitting are integral and in one-piece.  
23
- 24    7.     A method of manufacturing a burial casket with a through-fitting on a curved  
25    corner of the casket, as in claim 6, further comprising:
- 26            - said through-fitting is assembled from inner and outer tubes with first and  
27    second ends,
- 28            - said first end of said inner tube having external threads and said first end of said  
29    outer tube having internal threads,
- 30            - second ends of said inner and outer tubes each having a substantially concave  
31    face,

1           - threading said inner tube within said outer tube with said concave face of said  
2 inner tube spaced axially outwardly from said concave face of said outer tube,  
3           - said hole being sized to receive said inner tube and said rim of said hole being  
4 disposed to abut said second end of said outer tube,  
5           - inserting said second end of said inner tube through said hole from an exterior of  
6 the casket, with said concave face of said outer tube abutting said exterior of the casket.  
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10 8.       A method of manufacturing a burial casket with a through-fitting on a curved  
11 corner of the casket, the method comprising:  
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13           - providing inner and outer tubes having first and second ends,  
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15           - said first end of said inner tube having external threads and said first end of said  
16 outer tube having internal threads  
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18           - second ends of said inner and outer tubes each having a substantially concave  
19 face,  
20  
21           - threading said inner tube within said outer tube with said concave face of said  
22 inner tube spaced axially outwardly from said concave face of said outer tube,  
23  
24           - forming a hole in a curved corner of the casket, said hole being sized to receive  
25 said inner tube and a rim of said hole being disposed to abut said second end of said outer  
26 tube,  
27  
28           - inserting said second end of said inner tube through said hole from an exterior of  
29 the casket, with said concave face of said outer tube abutting said exterior of the casket,  
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1           - crimping a portion of said second end of said inner tube against an interior  
2 surface of the casket to affix the assembly of said inner and outer tubes to said casket.

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4    9.     A method of manufacturing a burial casket with a through-fitting on a curved  
5 corner of the casket, as in claim 8, wherein said crimping step comprises directing a  
6 shape-conforming crimping tool against said concave face of said second end of said  
7 inner tube.

8  
9    10.    A method of manufacturing a burial casket with a through-fitting on a curved  
10 corner of the casket, as in claim 9, wherein:

11           - said crimping tool comprises an end portion having a radius less than an inside  
12 diameter of said inner tube, and having a shape-conforming, flange-forming portion  
13 disposed around a periphery of said crimping tool; and

14           - said crimping step comprises forming a shape-conforming flange from said  
15 second end of said inner tube, said flange being in contact with said rim on said concave  
16 inner surface.

17  
18    11.    A method of manufacturing a burial casket with a through-fitting on a curved  
19 corner of the casket, as in claim 10, wherein:

20           - said flange-forming portion has a substantially U-shaped cross-section with an  
21 outer rim spaced radially outwardly from an outside diameter of said inner tube, prior to  
22 crimping.

23  
24    12.    A burial casket with a through-fitting on a curved corner of the casket,  
25 comprising:

26           - a hole in the curved corner of the casket, said hole having a rim with a convex  
27 outer surface and a concave inner surface,

28           - a through-fitting disposed within said hole, said through-fitting having

29                 - a body portion with a through hole along an axis and with a concave,  
30 shape-conforming shoulder portion, said shoulder portion being in contact with and  
31 conforming to said convex outer surface of said rim of said hole,

1                   - a neck portion extending axially from said shoulder portion and through  
2 said hole, said neck portion having an radially-outwardly extending integral flange  
3 portion, said integral flange portion conforming to and being in contact with said concave  
4 inner surface of said hole.  
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6 13.     A burial casket with a through-fitting on a curved corner of the casket, as in claim  
7 12, wherein said integral flange portion conforms to and is in contact with said concave  
8 inner surface of said hole substantially around an entire periphery of said neck portion.  
9

10 14.     A burial casket with a through-fitting on a curved corner of the casket, as in claim  
11 13, wherein said shoulder portion conforms to and is in contact with said convex outer  
12 surface of said rim of said hole substantially around an entire periphery of said body  
13 portion of said through-fitting.  
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15 15.     A burial casket with a through-fitting on a curved corner of the casket, as in claim  
16 14, wherein said body portion and said neck portion of said through-fitting are integral  
17 and in one piece.  
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19 16.     A burial casket with a through-fitting on a curved corner of the casket, as in claim  
20 14, wherein:

21           - said through-fitting is an assembly of inner and outer tubes having first and  
22 second ends,  
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24           - said first end of said inner tube having external threads and said first end of said  
25 outer tube having internal threads, second ends of said inner and outer tubes each having  
26 a substantially concave face,  
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28           - said inner tube is threaded within said outer tube with said second end of said  
29 inner tube extending axially from said concave face of said outer tube.  
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